



Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Wildlife Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj  
New Delhi 110 003

F.No.6-69/2017 WL(42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting)

Dated:30<sup>th</sup> May 2017

To  
All Members,  
Standing Committee of NBWL.

**Sub: Minutes of 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL.**

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the minutes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on **15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 3.00 PM in "Brahmputra Conference Hall, I Floor, Vayu Block, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, New Delhi** under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Yours faithfully,

(S. P. Vashishth)

Deputy Inspector General (Wildlife)

**Email:**[vashsatya@gmail.com](mailto:vashsatya@gmail.com)

**Encl:** As above

**Distribution:**

1. Secretary, MoEF & CC
2. Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF & CC.
3. Member Secretary, NTCA, New Delhi.
4. Additional Director General of Forests (FC), MoEF&CC.
5. Additional Director General of Forests (WL), MoEF&CC.
6. Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
7. Director, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
8. Prof. R.Sukumar, Central for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
9. Dr. H.S. Singh, Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat.
10. Pr. Secretary (Forests), Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

**Copy to:**

1. PS to Hon'ble MOS (I/C) E&F.
2. PPS to Addl.DGF(WL) and Member Secretary, Standing Committee (NBWL).
3. PPS to IGF(WL)/PS to DIG(WL)/PS to JD(WL).

**MINUTES OF 42<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL  
BOARD FOR WILDLIFE HELD ON 15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017**

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife was held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest and Climate Change. List of participants is at **ANNEXURE I**.

Hon'ble Chairman welcomed all the participants to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting and asked the IGF(WL) to initiate the discussions on the Agenda Items.

**AGENDA ITEM No. 1**

**Confirmation of the minutes of the 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017**

The IGF(WL) informed the Committee that the minutes of the 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017, were circulated to all members of the Standing Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017. However, no comments were received. Accordingly, the minutes of 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting were deemed to be confirmed.

**AGENDA ITEM No. 2**

**ACTION TAKEN REPORT**

**36.4.2.1 Setting up 5.25 MTPA Development of Floating storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) facilities for import of LNG within the existing deep water port at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. The proposed site is 2.5 km away from the boundary limits of Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was discussed in the 40<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SC-NBWL. He also mentioned that according to Terms of Reference (TOR) for EC, impact on Marine Life would be assessed. Since the project site

located 2.0 km away from Coringa WLS, Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan is required to be submitted. As the report on impact and other aspects related to marine life has been pending for one year and a half, the Chairman requested that the CWLW and the user agency should be requested to attend the Ministry and reasons for the delay in submission of Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan sought. Accordingly the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

**36.4.2.12. Construction of Singoli-Bhatwari Hydroelectric Project 99 MW by M/s L&T Uttaranchal Hydropower Limited. The proposed site falls within 10 km from the boundary of Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary**

**36.4.2.13. Construction of 171 MW Lata Tapovan Hydro Power Project of NTPC Ltd, Uttarakhand**

**36.4.2.14. Construction of 520 MW (4X130) Tapovan Vishnugad Hydroelectric Project of NTPC Ltd., Uttarakhand. The proposed site falls outside Nanda Devi National Park at a distance of 7.5 km**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the above proposals and mentioned that the proposals were considered by the SC-NBWL in its 39<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016. During the said meeting, it was decided by the Standing Committee to seek the comments of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation on the proposed projects. A letter was sent to Ministry of Water Resources on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016 for seeking its comments. Reminder letters have been sent to Ministry of Water Resources on 31.03.2017 and 05.05.2017. However, no comments have been received from Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.

The Chair suggested to the Chief Wildlife Warden to ask the State Government to take up the matter with Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

**34.4.2.11 Proposal of Ms Stone International Pvt. Ltd Chechat for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone (Building) production in Mining lease no.22/92**

**situated in village Chechat in Tehsil Ramganj Mandi, District Kota which lies at about 6.4 km aerial distance from the Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary/ Mukundra Hills National Park**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that a committee of NTCA had visited the site and accorded concurrence to the proposal. In the 39<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee had decided to defer the proposals in view of non-finalization of ESZ proposal of Mukundra Hills TR by state. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan informed that ESZ proposal of Mukundra Hills TR would be finalized and submitted to the Ministry in one month. Accordingly the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

**34.4.2.12 Proposal for renewal of existing lime stone mining lease no.24/87 in village Pipakhedi, Tehsil Ramganj Mandi District Kota near Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan by M/s Zahoor Ahmed, Abdul Majid. The proposed mining lease 8.5 km away from Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that a committee of NTCA had visited the site and accorded concurrence to the proposal. In the 39<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee had decided to defer the proposals in view of non-finalization of ESZ proposal of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary by the State. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan informed that ESZ proposal of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary would be finalized and submitted to the Ministry in one month. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

**34.4.2.13 Proposal of M/s Associated Stone Industries (Kota) limited for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone production in mining lease No. 1/89 situated in Tehsil Ramganj mandi, District Kota, Rajasthan**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that a committee of NTCA had visited the site and accorded concurrence to the proposal. In the 39<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee had decided to defer the proposals in view of non-finalization of ESZ proposal of Mukundra Hills TR by the State. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan informed

that ESZ proposal of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary would be finalized and submitted to the Ministry in one month. Accordingly the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

**39.4.2.5 Proposal for International Amusement & Infrastructures Ltd for Jaipur Mega Tourism City, a Recreational Project at village Daulatpura Kotra, Tehsil Amer District Jaipur, Rajasthan**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SCNBWL in its 39<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016. During the said meeting, the Chief Wildlife Warden mentioned that the Environment Clearance for the project is under consideration of SEIAA. The Chief Wildlife Warden informed that the Environment Clearance of project shall be submitted in 2-3 months. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

**39.4.2.7 Proposal for stone mining lease area 4 ha (private land) in Khasra No. 357 village Ghoora, Tehsil-Rajnagar, Dist. Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh. The mining area is 6.67 km away from Panna Tiger Reserve**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SCNBWL in its 39<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016. The IGF, NTCA mentioned that the mine location has not been ascertained as yet. The representative of CWLW, Madhya Pradesh mentioned that mining area is a private land and does not form part of any corridor. Dr. R. Sukumar, member mentioned that no mining should be permitted in the areas proposed to be added to Panna Tiger Reserve in lieu of the diverted area for Ken-Betwa River linking project. The Committee consisting of representatives from NTCA and WII conducted the site inspection and concluded that the project cannot be permitted. Accordingly the Standing Committee decided to reject the proposal.

**40.3.2.1 Diversion of 9.94 ha of forest land from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of New Railway Line Broad Gauge (BG) between Agartala to Sabroom, Tripura**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SCNBWL in its 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting held during 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> August 2014. The IGF(WL) mentioned that the State Government has stated that there are difficulties in implementation of the condition of declaring Bhairabnagar Bison Conservation Reserve (BBCR) area as a part of the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary.

After discussions, the DGF&SS suggested that a Committee comprising of the Chief Wildlife Warden of Tripura, Dr. R. Sukumar, member, one representative of WII and one person from Wildlife Division would visit the site and submit a report to the Ministry for further consideration.

**40.4.1.7 Proposal for diversion of 39.75 ha of forest land from Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary in width of 30 m in km. 66.200 to km. 77.700, km. 91.300 to km. 91.900 & km. 93.000 to km. 93.900 for widening of existing 2-lane to 4-lane of NH-12 from km. 10.40 (Junction of NH-7 bypass at Jabalpur) to km. 301.80 (near Bhojpur Junction) Section Madhya Pradesh under NHDP Phase III**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SC-NBWL in its 40<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. Nauradhi sanctuary is a part of the area proposed to be added to Panna Tiger Reserve in lieu of the diverted area for Ken-Betwa Link Canal. He added that the Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Animal Under at the depressed location where the vertical clearance of 2.5 m is available, without disturbing the proposed profile of the road. Because elevated underpasses over the ground will require additional land for the side slopes of road embankment.
- (2) One more span of 5 m on either end of the proposed bridges may be added so that they serve the purpose of animal underpasses.
- (3) Chain Link fencing on either and in the sanctuary area. It will drastically reduce the probability of mortality of animals due to road accidents.
- (4) Artificial water bodies or ponds of about 0.5 ha having shallow depth of 3-4 m with gentle slopes at shores at the staggered interval of 1 km or appropriate location on either side of

the road with in 250 m from the road. It will avoid the tendency of the animals for crossing the road for water.

(5) Widening of road will reduce the traffic congestion and density of vehicle on the road, which indirectly give the feeling of less vehicles in that area. The proposed project road involves widening and improvement with 4 lane configuration of existing NH-12. In view of this and national importance of this infrastructure project which will improve the connectivity between the Jabalpur, Bhopal and other district of Madhya Pradesh. Therefore, I recommended this project with the imposition of following conditions.

- (a) Provision of animal underpasses
- (b) Provision of Chain link fencing
- (c) Construction of artificial water bodies.
- (d) Enhancement of span of the bridges. For animal under passes.
- (e) The user agency i.e. Madhya Pradesh road Development Corporation Ltd. Should pay 10% of the project cost.
- (f) No labour camps should be sited with in 1000 m of boundary of wildlife sanctuary.
- (g) A committee comprising of wildlife officials of the sanctuary and user agency i.e. MP Road Development Corporation Ltd. should be formed for continuous monitoring in the sanctuary area during construction period.
- (h) No construction material should be stored within the 100 m boundary of sanctuary.
- (i) No construction material viz. sand soil, stone etc. will be allowed to be taken from sanctuary or forest area.

After discussions and considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **40.4.1.8 Proposal for diversion of 0.145 ha of forest land from Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Harduwa reservoir canal, Madhya Pradesh**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SC-NBWL in its 40<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. Nauradhi

sanctuary is a part of the area proposed to be added to Panna TR in lieu of the diverted area for Ken-Betwa Link Canal. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with mitigation measures:

- (1) There should be no transfer of area even for maintenance.
- (2) Part of the budget used for the whole irrigation project should be funded to build a game proof wall (GPW) along the whole area covering the agricultural lands and irrigation project to avoid crop raids by wild animals and attempts of farmers to encroach the sanctuary land.
- (3) No construction material should pass through the sanctuary.
- (4) No labourers' camps should be created far away from the sanctuary boundary.

After discussions and considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**32.4.2(19) Proposal for Lakheri Chamovali mining lease of M/s ACC Limited, Lakheri Cement Works, Lakheri, Dist. Bundi (Rajasthan) for mining purpose of limestone, Rajasthan**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SC-NBWL in its 40<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. A meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Secretary, MoEF&CC to discuss the aforesaid matter on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017. The Secretary, MoEF&CC requested for the mining plan for 201.88 ha and 208 ha. He also enquired about the EC and FC clearance for the project from the ACC representatives. He also enquired on the requirement of law on de-notification as well as clarification on the conflicting stands taken by NTCA *vis-à-vis* this project. He mentioned that requisite information has been provided by the project proponent and NTCA. He added that the matter has been pending for quite sometime.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the Secretary, MoEF&CC would take a decision on the basis of information submitted by the project proponent and NTCA.



#### **40.3.2.1 Proposal for denotification from Radhanagari Sanctuary for Savarde Minor Irrigation Project, Maharashtra**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SC-NBWL in its 40<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. The representative of CWLW mentioned that the user agency is willing to take up the project and would fund the requisite cumulative impact assessment study. He mentioned that except the cumulative impact study of all major and minor irrigation projects in and around Radhanagri Wildlife Sanctuary as recommended by Dr. Asad Rahmani Committee, the State has complied with all the conditions stipulated by the said Committee.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the completion of aforesaid cumulative impact study.

#### **40.3.2.2 Proposal for bauxite mining lease area 206.37 ha at village Talagaon in Taluka Radhanagari and village Baveli in Taluka Gaganbawada, Dist Kolhapur, Maharashtra**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SC-NBWL in its 40<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. The PCCF, Maharashtra has not recommended the proposal. He added that the proposal has also not been recommended by the State Board for Wildlife.

The representative of CWLW mentioned that meeting of State Board for Wildlife will be convened in 1-2 months and accordingly its decision on the aforesaid proposal shall be communicated to the Ministry.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that Secretary, EFCC would convene a meeting of project proponent, State Government and NTCA to take a decision on the proposal.

#### **41.4.3.5 Proposals for Laying of pipeline and construction of structures passing through notified corridor area of Kawal Tiger reserve, through Pranahita**

**WLS, Pocharam WLS, Amrabad TR, Kinnersaini WLS, Eturnagaram WLS, etc.**

- (1) Diversion of 24.446 Ha of Reserve Forest falling in Kawal Tiger Reserve in 2 division i.e., (7.031Ha) in Utnoor Division, (17.4145 Ha) Asifabad division for laying of Drinking water pipeline and constriction of structures in Segment -22/17 (Powerguda) in f/o SE, TDWSP(RWS&S) Nirmal Circle**
- (2) Diversion of 0.758 Ha of Forest land falling in Sivaram Wildlife Sanctuary out of 7.762 of Forest land for laying of pipeline and construction of structures in segment 15/7 (Manthani- WLM) submitted be SE, TDWSP Karimnagar Circle for providing safe drinking Water**
- (3) Diversion of 0.903 Ha falling in Tiger Corridor out of total proposed diversion of 4.158 ha falling in Corridor area of Asifabad Division in Kawal Tiger Reserve, Nirmal for laying of pipeline and Construction of Structures in Segment-22/9(Asifabad) for providing safe drinking water under Telangana Drinking water to Kumrambhem District under TDWSP, Telangana**
- (4) Diversion of 6.926 Ha of forest land in (WLM) Division, Paloncha in favour of Supdt. Engineer TDWSP (RWS&S) Circle, Khammam for construction of structures for segment 25/7 (Banjara) under TDWSP, Telangana**
- (5) Diversion of 13.532 Ha of Forest land for laying of pipeline and construction of structures in segment 3/2 falling in Amrabad Tiger Reserve for providing safe drinking water in Nalgonda District under TDWSP, Telangana**
- (6) Diversion of 20.418 Ha of Reserve Forest falling in Kawal Tiger Reserve in 3 division i.e., (2.801 ha) Nirmal, (15.828 Ha) Khanapur & (1.789Ha ) Jannaram out of toatal forest area of 20.418 Ha of Reserve Forest Land in Kawal Tiger Reserve Circle, Nirmal for laying of Drinking water pipeline and construction of structures in segment -24(Kaddam) in f/o SE, TDWSP(RWS&S) Nirmal Circle.**
- (7) Diversion of 21.911 Ha of Forest land in Warangal North, Warangal South and WLM Warangal in favour of SE, TDWSP Circle, Warangal for laying of pipeline and**

**construction of structures for Segment -17/3(Kothaguda) for providing drinking water to Warangal District under Telangana**

- (8) Diversion of 1.073 Ha of forest land falling in Tiger Corridor out of total proposed diversion of 4.804 ha of forest land for laying of pipeline and Construction of Structures in Segment -22/15(Dhanora) Telangana**
- (9) Diversion of 3.655 Ha of forest land for laying of pipeline and construction of structures in segment 22/8 for providing safe drinking water in Asifabad District under Telangana**
- (10) Diversion of 1.929 Ha of Forest land falling in Kawal Tiger Reserve out of total Forest Area 4.737 Ha of Reserve Forest land of Utnoor Division (FDPT) for laying of drinking water pipeline and construction of structures in Segment -21/8(Sirchelma) under TDWSP (RWS&S) Adilabad District, Telangana**
- (11) Diversion of 4.714 ha of forest land in Kagaznagar division erstwhile Adilabad District (presently Komaram Bheem Asifabad District) for laying of pipeline and construction of structures in segment -22/1 (Kowtala) for providing safe drinking water under Telangana the proposed area is passing through notified corridor area of Kawal Tiger Reserve**
- (12) Diversion of 3.876 ha of forest land in Kagaznagar Division of erstwhile Adilabad District (presently Komaram Bheem Asifabad District ) for laying of Pipeline and Construction of Structures in Segment-22/2(Bejjur) under Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project in favour of Superintending Engineer, TDWSP(RWS&S)**
- (13) Diversion of 4.684 ha of forest land in Kagaznagar division of erstwhile Adilabad District (presently Komaram Bheem, Asifabad District for laying of Pipe Line and Constriction of Structures in Segment -22/3 (Sirpur) under Telangana the proposed area is passing through notified corridor area of Kawal Tiger Reserve**
- (14) Diversion of 2.425 ha of forest land in Kagaznagar Division of erstwhile Adilabad Diivision of erstwhile Adilabad District (presently Komaram Bheem Asifabad District) for laying of Pipe Line and Construction of Structures in Segment-22/4 (Kagaznagar) undr Telangana**

- (15) **Diversion of 2.643 ha (0.222+2.421) of forest land in Kagaznagar and Bellampally divisions of erstwhile Adilabad District presently in Komarambheem (Asifabad) and Mancherial Districts, for laying of Pipe Line in Segment-22/5 (Dahegaon) under Telangana**
- (16) **Diversion of 0.117 ha of forest land in Bellampally and Mancherial Divisions for laying pipeline and construction of structures in Segment 22/7 (Vemanapally) for providing safe drinking water under Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project**
- (17) **Proposal for diversion of 1.989 ha of forestland from Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of pipeline and construction of structures in segment 20/2 (Mangapet), Telangana for providing safe drinking water under Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project in favour of Superintending Engineer, TDWSP(RWS&S)Circle, Warangal**
- (18) **Diversion of 3.582 Ha of forest land in Medak and Kamreddy Divisions for laying of pipeline for Segment -8/2(Singuru) for providing safe drinking water in Medark Constituency under Telangana**
- (19) **Diversion of 3.386 ha of forest land in Mancherial division for laying of pipeline in Segment -23/3(Kotapally) for providing safe drinking water under Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project in favour of Superintending Engineer, TDWSP(RWS&S) Circle, Nirmal**
- (20) **Diversion of 4.986 Hectares of Forest Land for Laying of Pipeline and construction of structures in Segment 1/8 (Achampet) for providing drinking water under Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project. Proposal involves Amrabad Tiger Reserve**
- (21) **Diversion of 22.258 Ha. in Warangal North Division -13.965 Hectares, Warangal North ESZ Division -2.583 Hectares &Warangal WLM Division -5.71 Hectares, of Forest land for 'Laying of pipe lines and Construction of other structures for providing safe drinking water to Mulug, Constituency, Warangal District Segment 20/3 Telangana**
- (22) **Diversion of 2.351 ha of forest land in Kamareddy division for laying of pipeline and construction of structures in segment -12/5 (Lingampet) for providing safe drinking**

**water to Nizamabad District under Telangana Drinking Water Supply project in favour of Superintending Engineer, TDWSP circle, Nirmal, Telangana**

- (23) **Diversion on 0.671 ha of forest land in various division of Nizamabad Circle for laying of pipeline and construction of structures in Segment-11/5(Markal) for providing safe drinking water to Nizamabad District under Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project in favour of Superintending Engineer, TDWSP (RWS&S), Nirmal circle**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposals and mentioned that the proposals were considered by the SC-NBWL in its 41<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017. He also has mentioned that a committee comprising of Dr. H. S. Singh, member, Dr. R. Sukumar, member, Shri B.S. Somasekhar, IGF (NTCA, South Zone) and Shri S.P. Vashishth DIGF (WL), (MoEF&CC) visited the project sites and submitted the report to the Ministry. Dr. R. Sukumar mentioned that proposed structures for water storage (OHBR) at the boundary or fringe of the Protected Area (PA) may not cause much impact but the sites located more than 100 m inside the Protected Area need re-examination to find out alternatives. This was explained to the TDWSCL and they agreed to reexamine such locations inside the PAs. He added that underground laid pipes would not pose any problem to the wildlife.

Based on the observations and information provided by the officials of the Telangana Government, the recommendations of the site inspection committee are as under:

- (1) Some villages in the core area of Kawal Tiger Reserve have been identified for voluntary resettlement outside. In cases where villagers have already given their consent for resettlement and the state government has identified alternative sites for resettlement within a defined time frame, there is no need for pipelines to be laid to such villages. Other local sources of drinking water may be provided to them as these villagers should not be deprived of the benefits provided to others in the state. The TDWSCL should also give an undertaking to provide drinking water under Mission Bhagiratha to such villages at the alternative sites.
- (2) The committee inspected some of the locations for construction of water-storage tanks. It noted that the tanks that are close to an existing road will not cause much disturbance to

wildlife, but the tanks that are located inside the forest away from a road have the potential to cause disturbance both during construction as well as later. The committee therefore strongly recommends that the TDWSCL, in consultation with Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana Forest Department and other forest officials, should make an attempt to find alternative locations for water storage tanks that are slated to be located within the Protected Area at distances greater than 100 metres away from an existing road or the forest boundary. The committee understands that about 20 out of 59 such structures require re-examination and relocation (see Annexure-II). The final acceptance of location of a water storage tank can be left to Chief Wildlife Warden.

- (3) Water storage tanks in forest areas may be covered by vegetation wherever possible. If not possible, they may be painted in a camouflaged colour to blend with the environment. This may be decided with the consultation of the Forest Department.
- (4) TDWSCL should make provisions for supply of water to wildlife at designated places along the route passing through forest areas, especially Kawal Tiger Reserve, in consultation with Telangana Forest Department. Such provision should be made at intervals of 2 km each. The Chief Wildlife Warden is advised to develop a master plan to use the proposed pipelines for supply of water to the wildlife. Precautions have to be taken to avoid concentration of livestock at the water point.
- (5) While laying the pipelines, TDWSCL should execute the work in a timely manner by simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the pipes so as to minimize the disturbance to wildlife. They should not dig trenches along long stretches and leave them open for several weeks without completion of work. The working length of the trench should not exceed 500 m at a time. The levelling of the surface should be perfect to give aesthetic view to the surface area. The surface of the pipeline may be cool in summer. Low height evergreen shrubs with shallow roots may be planted at both sites to give shelter to small wild creatures.
- (6) It appears that the OHBR (overhead balancing reservoir) structures are proposed on or near the hillocks inside the PAs to take advantage of the gain in elevation so that water may be supplied to the villages under gravity. But the gain in elevation may also be created artificially by raising the base of OHBR structures and providing supports to the pipes connecting these structures. This way the structures could have been located along the road

inside the PAs. This would require a minuscule amount of investment as compared to the total cost of the project. This option may also be explored.

After discussions, the Standing committee decided to recommend the proposals along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the aforesaid Committee and conditions prescribed by State Chief Wildlife Warden.

### **AGENDA ITEM No. 3**

#### **42.3. Policy Issues and Representations Received from the User Agencies**

##### **42.3.1 National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031)**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the National Wildlife Action Plan for the period 2016-2031. He mentioned that the Action Plan has 17 Chapters and is based on the premise that essential ecological processes that are governed or strongly moderated by ecosystems are essential for food production, health and other aspects of human survival and sustainable development. The Plan adopts a landscape approach in conservation of all wildlife and also emphasizes on preservation of genetic diversity and sustainable utilization of species and ecosystems, which have a direct bearing on our scientific advancements and support to millions of rural communities.

The Plan accords special emphasis to recovery of threatened species of wildlife while conserving their habitats which include terrestrial, inland aquatic, coastal and marine ecosystems. It also takes note of concerns relating to climate change on wildlife, by integrating actions to be taken for its mitigation and adaption into wildlife management planning.

The Plan underscores the increasing need for people's support for conservation of wildlife with higher inputs for eco-development, education, innovation, training, extension, conservation awareness and outreach programs. Wildlife health and disaster management have also received due attention in this Plan. The Plan also takes note of and addresses the rising human animal conflict owing to shrinkage, fragmentation and deterioration of habitats generating animosity against wild animals and protected areas.

Prof. R. Sukumar and Dr. H.S. Singh mentioned that the Action Plan would be for next 15 years. The DGF&SS suggested that the Standing Committee should hold separate meeting on the Plan. He also added that there would be a separate meeting with stake holders on the National Wildlife Action Plan. Thereafter, the draft National Wildlife Action Plan would be placed before the Standing Committee for consideration.

#### **42.3.2. Proposal of the Oil India Limited to Extract Hydrocarbon beneath 3900-4000 mtr of Dibru Saikhowa National Park**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the user agency Oil India Limited (OIL) filed a petition before the Supreme Court IA No.3934 of 2014 in W.P. (C) 202/1995. The matter was forwarded to CEC (Central Empowered Committee) for its comment/ remarks. CEC in its report to the Supreme Court dated 09.05.2016 recommended for directing Standing Committee of NBWL to consider the proposal. Based on CEC recommendations, Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the Standing Committee of NBWL, three times (1<sup>st</sup> ORDER dated 10/05/2016, 2<sup>nd</sup> ORDER dated 03/03/2017, 3<sup>rd</sup> ORDER dated 13/04/2017) to consider this proposal.

The Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam was requested twice to forward his comments on the proposal. CWLW, Assam mentioned that certain vital information sought from the User agency has been received a few days back only. He added that he would furnish a report on the proposal within May 2017 to the Ministry. The DGF&SS suggested that this issue would be resolved only after receiving the report from the Chief Wildlife Warden. Accordingly, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal pending receipt of report from State of Assam.

#### **42.3.3. Judgment of the National Green Tribunal, Bhopal dated 18/11/2016 in Original Application no. 63 of 2016 titled Mahendra Singh Borawat Vs. Union of India & Ors before the National Green Tribunal, Central Zone, Bhopal Bench.**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the petition was filed before the NGT against the De-notification Plan for Desert National Park (DNP) of



Barmer and Jaisalmer area of Rajasthan. It has been mentioned in the petition that the respondents are going to de-notify an area of 1400 square km out of an area of 3162 square km of the protected area for commercial purpose. Further, he added that this Ministry has requested the Chief Wildlife Warden of Rajasthan to forward his comments.

After discussions, the Committee decided that a Committee comprising of Dr. H. S. Singh, member, Dr. R. Sukumar, member, one representative of WII and one person from Wildlife Division would visit the project site and submit a report to the Ministry for further consideration.

#### **AGENDA ITEM No.4**

##### **41.4.1. PROPOSALS WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREAS**

##### **42.4.1.1 Diversion of 21.343 ha of forestland from Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve for rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-565 from km 86.057 to 133.922 (Nagarjuna Sagar to Davulapally Section) 2-lane with paved shoulders in Pasuvemula RF & Mutukur RF of Wildlife Management Division, Markapur, Andhra Pradesh**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal involves the diversion of 21.343 ha of forest land from Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve for rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-565 from km 86.057 to 133.922. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) Wildlife Management Plan is proposed with an amount of Rs.3.00 Crores for habitat improvement, protection, Man-Animal Conflict & Publicity extension wildlife awareness activities in Nagarjunasagar Tiger Reserve. The user agency will deposit the money into Biodiversity Conservation Society of Andhra Pradesh (BIOSAP) Account.
- (2) Erection of rambles, reflectors are to be placed in the stretch of 7 km in Pasuvemula and Mutukuru Reserve Forests at an important animal crossing zone as identified by the Forest Department. Chain link mesh to the height of 6 feet in both sides along the road in buffer area to be erected by the user agency.

- (3) Construction of under passes in the 6 km stretch at 2 places where the streams are flowing proposed for the easy movement of wildlife from both sides. The under passes should have clear width of equivalent to the road width and overhead clearance of 10 feet in the stretch falling in Pasuvemula Reserve Forest.
- (4) Erection of Sign boards and caution boards to create awareness of Wildlife Conservation by the user agency.

Further he mentioned that the NTCA has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation strategies:

- (1) The user agency should seek necessary forest clearance permissions from MoEF&CC, GoI and appropriate NPV applicable be deposited for the forest land proposed for diversion as per Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's order numbers IA 826 and 566 (dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008) related to a Writ Petition (Civil) No 202/1995.
- (2) We submit that elevated flyovers/viaducts at the appropriate locations of Pasuvemula Reserve Forest would be the best strategy to enable wildlife crossing. The design/dimensions of the proposed flyovers/elevated viaducts should be as per the guide viz., Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructure of WII published in 2016. The user agency should consult NTCA, WII and Field Director, NSTR for confirming the design, dimensions of each underpass prior o commencement of their construction.
- (3) The user agency in collaboration with the forest department, WII and NTCA should carry out a join survey once again (noting down the exact GPS location, measurements of the ground spans, etc.) for finalizing the exact locations where the flyovers should be constructed as per the current recommendations.
- (4) Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed at regular intervals along the widened road. AP Forest Department should ensure that user agency should strictly adhere to the mitigation measures suggested herein this report before upgradation project is implemented.
- (5) Legal status of NH-565 passing through NSTR should remain unchanged and no further widening proposal of these stretches should be permitted in future.

- (6) CCTV enabled check posts needs to be constructed on NH-565 at Kothur Road junction, Ethipotala Cross Road and near Srifiripadu for regular monitoring of vehicles and control of traffic during emergency situations so as to have effective checks and control to prevent wildlife forest crime cases.
- (7) Patrol vehicles of the Forest department should regularly patrol (both day and night time) along the road ensuring no animal feeding, no illegal parking and animal mortality due to road accidents inside the forest. Pasuvemula RF is one of the most prone areas of NSTR and chance of the incident increases with road widening and more vehicular traffic. Forest Department should be vigilant and prepared to deal with such situations, particularly during the hot, dry seasons.
- (8) Attempt should be made that mineral trees are not cut for road widening. Local Range Forest Officer and frontline staff should strictly monitor this. Construction work should be during day time (7 Am – 5 PM) and no night camp of labourers and contractors. User agency officials inside the forest should be allowed. User agency should also monitor that no labourer gets involved in extraction of forest products. Local Range Forest Officer, forest staff should pay regular and sudden visits to the construction sites for monitoring these.
- (9) Use of heavy earth moving vehicles should be made as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be dumped outside the forest or could also be used in constructing the road underneath flyovers for Departmental use (patrol, wildlife tourism, etc.)
- (10) Light and sound barriers and vegetative camouflage should also be created along the road as per WII's recommendations.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions and mitigation measures suggested by NTCA, WII and the State Chief Wildlife Warden. The standard mitigation measures suggested by Wildlife Institute of India for Linear Infrastructure Projects would be adhered to.

**42.4.1.2 Diversion of 33.459 ha of forest land from Sri Penisila Narasimha Wildlife Sanctuary for rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-565 from km 361/327 to 420.800 (Dornala T-Junction to Penchalakona Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh to two lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP-IV, Kadapa**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 33.459 ha of forest land from Sri Penisila Narasimha Wildlife Sanctuary for rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-565 from km 361/327 to 420.800. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Wildlife Management Plan is proposed with an amount of Rs.300 Crores for habitat improvement, Protection, Man-Animal Conflict & Publicity extension wildlife awareness activities in Sri Penisula Narasimha Swamy Wildlife Sanctuary. The user agency will deposit the money into Biodiversity Conservation Society of Andhra Pradesh (BIOSAP) Account.
- (2) Erection of ramblers from Km 361/327 to Km 420/800 i.e., Dornala T-Junction to Penchalakona Section Road at an important animal crossing zone as identified by the Forest Department at 5 locations.
- (3) Chain link mesh to the height of 6 feet in both sides along the road in sanctuary area to be erected by the user agency.
- (4) Construction of under passes at 5 places proposed for the easy movement of wildlife from both sides. The under passes should have clear 10 feet width and 6 feet height for entire stretch of the connectivity.
- (5) Erection of Sign boards and caution boards to create awareness by the user agency.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden and standard mitigation measures suggested by Wildlife Institute of India for Linear Infrastructure Projects.

**42.4.1.3 Proposal for 0.0750 ha of forest land from Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of retiring room at Sasan Railway Station, district Junagarh, Gujarat by Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Western Railway, Bhavnagar**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.0750 ha of forest land from Gir Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of retiring room at Sasan Railway Station in Junagarh district. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) The user agency or his contractor must ensure the minimum movement of the vehicles and the staff in the sanctuary area and vehicle will move on prescribed route as decided by local Deputy Conservator of Forests in charge of the sanctuary national park.
- (2) No damage/disturbance to be caused to flora and fauna of the said area by the user agency and its establishment.
- (3) User agency or his contractor will not use any area of the sanctuary other than the area shown on the map and permission sought for construction of retiring room. Any shifting of area will attract the provision of cancellation of permission.
- (4) The land permitted for use will not be liable to sale or transfer the right and privileges to any agency.
- (5) The agency or contractor will strictly follow the provision under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- (6) 5% of the cost of the project should be spent for habitat improvement and wildlife conservation in the sanctuary area.
- (7) Approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980, will be obtained separately for use of forest land. NPV will be deposited as per the existing rates.
- (8) The retiring room will be used only for official use by the railway officers and staff.
- (9) The Chief Wildlife Warden or the State Government may impose other additional conditions at any stage which will be binding on the user agency.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden. However, the retiring room shall not be used as a rest house by the tourists.

#### **42.4.1.4 Proposal for diversion of 0.7540 ha of forest land from Gir Wildlife Sanctuary for regularization of Hotel under Tourism activity by Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Limited, Gujarat**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.7540 ha of forest land from Gir Wildlife Sanctuary for regularization of Hotel under Tourism activity by Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Limited. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with mitigation measures and conditions. He added that the Hotel has been in existence prior to the enactment of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and was on lease till 2013. The lease is required to be renewed now and the recommendation of Standing Committee is needed as it is a non-forestry activity under Sec 29 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. He added that the Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section-9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (2) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Gir Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (3) The user agency or its authorized representatives shall ensure that flood lights are not used and noise pollution is not caused during the operation and management of Hotel.
- (4) The user agency shall use outside colour which merges with the surroundings.
- (5) Approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
- (6) The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates.
- (7) The user agency shall deposit Rs.10 lakh in Gujarat State Lion Conservation Society for development and Conservation of Asiatic Lion.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.5. Diversion of 8.162 ha of forest land from Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary for laying drinking water pipe line from Ravapar-Ashaladi-Baranda Roadsar section and Dayapur to Meghapar of Dayapar Taluka, Gujarat**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 8.162 ha of forest land from Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary for laying drinking water pipe line. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) The user agency or his contractor must ensure the minimum movement of the vehicles and the staff in the sanctuary area and vehicle will move on prescribed route as decided by local Deputy Conservator of Forests in charge of the sanctuary/national part.
- (2) No damage/disturbance to be caused to flora and fauna of the said area by the user agency and its establishment.
- (3) User agency or his contractor will not use any area of the sanctuary other than the area shown on the map and permission sought for laying of drinking water pipeline. Any shifting of area will attract the provision of cancellation of permission.
- (4) The land permitted for use will not be liable to sale or transfer the right and privileges to any other agency.
- (5) The agency or contractor will strictly follow the provision under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (6) 5% of the cost of the project should be spent for habitat improvement and wildlife conservation in the sanctuary area.
- (7) Approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980, for use of 1.216 ha forest land will be obtained separately. The net present value (NPV) will be deposited as per the existing rates.
- (8) Water supply at appropriate locations for wildlife will be provided free of charge by the user agency.
- (9) The Chief Wildlife Warden or the State Government may impose other additional conditions at any stage will be binding on the user agency.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project in providing drinking water to 39000 human beings of water scarce villages and hamlets, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.6. Proposal for movement and plying of inland vessels through the Turtle Wild Life Sanctuary, district Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh Allahabad via Varanasi to Haldia in River Ganga (National Waterway No. 1), proposed by Inland Waterway Authority of India**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the movement and plying of inland vessels through the Turtle Wild Life Sanctuary. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Protection & mitigation measures for wildlife should be ensured as per guidelines of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, (Wildlife), New Delhi.
- (2) User agency IWAI, should provide the funds for reduction in negative impact for conservation & eco-development activities to the sanctuary as per guidelines of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife), New Delhi.
- (3) In order to minimize the adverse impact on the movement and migration of wildlife and propagating or developing of wildlife and its environment, it would required a study regarding the carrying capacity of the sanctuary with regard to plying of the inland vessels, impact of their movement in the sanctuary and the mitigation measures from a wild life expert body/agency.
- (4) A Trust shall be set up for Turtle Wild life Sanctuary management and amount equivalent to the 5% of the project amount shall be deposited in advance by IWAI. The trust would invest this corpus into the safe Government Bonds/securities of bank deposit and use only annual yield for supplementing UPFD allocated budget for implementation of the management plan. The trust shall be headed by the Chief Wild Life Warden, UP and would



also have a representative of the member of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife.

- (5) No quarrying/mining shall be carried out within sanctuary area.
- (6) User agency will ensure that any construction required shall not affect the nesting site of the turtle and other reptiles found in the vicinity of the sanctuary.
- (7) User agency will strictly follow the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended from time to time.

Director, Wildlife Institute of India mentioned that vessels (cargo and tourism) may use the deeper central portion of the Ganga river without any dredging. He added that a maximum of 5 vessels per day may be allowed to move through the channel.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the standard mitigation measures prescribed by Wildlife Institute of India and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.7. Proposal for setting up Kisan Sewa Kendra (Retail Outlet) proposed by Indian Oil Corporation, Moradabad Division, Moradabad at private land Gata No.1446, on Khavadi-Mohasanpur Marg at village Azampur, tehsil-Dhanaura, distt. Amroha, Uttar Pradesh located within the boundary of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the setting up of Kisan Sewa Kendra (Retail Outlet) on private land located within the notified boundary of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary at Moradabad by Indian Oil Corporation. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Protection and mitigation measures for wildlife should be ensured as per standard practice in such cases.
- (2) Land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- (3) Rules and regulation of the concerned departments for establishing the project shall be complied with.

- (4) The instruction/orders passed by the State Govt./Central Govt. and the direction passed by Hon'ble High Court/Supreme Court from time to time regarding such project shall be complied with.
- (5) User agency will ensure that the project personnel engaged in the project shall observe the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 & Rules made thereafter.
- (6) Construction waste materials will not be thrown inside the sanctuary area or movement corridor of wildlife.
- (7) User agency will take all precautions including technical measures to contain the noise and air pollution, protection from fire due to construction activities.
- (8) The project proponent shall obtain consent to establish and to operate from UP Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
- (9) The project proponent shall undertake plantation/forestation work by planting the native species in the nearly adjacent to project area/sanctuary for which necessary finance will be provided by the user agency.
- (10) As per the letter F.No.5-3/2007-FC, Ministry of Environment & Forest (FC Division) Government of India, New Delhi dated 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009 and the G.O. of Uttar Pradesh Shashan (Van-Anubhag 2) letter no Writ 526/14-2-2008 dated 22-08-2008. The use of the proposed private land of the project (0.129 ha) inside the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary may be permitted on payment of an amount equivalent to the net present value (NPV) payable for the adjoining forest area.
- (11) No labourers' camp shall be established in the sanctuary/forest area or other sensitive area.
- (12) Two GPS sets shall be provided to the Amroha Forest Division for the survey and demarcation of the sanctuary boundaries.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.8. Proposal for Garh Mukteshwar as Religious and Hi-Tech Smart City on both bank of River Ganga falling within the boundary of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary in district Hapur & Amroha, Uttar Pradesh**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves development of Garh Mukteshwar as Religious Hi-Tech Smart City on both bank of River Ganga falling within the notified boundary of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary. An area of 7395 ha of non-forest land (6227 ha agricultural land, 1168 ha other Govt. land) would be developed under the Project. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Protection & Mitigation measures for wild life should be ensured as per guidelines of Government of India.
- (2) A detailed impact assessment study will be carried out by a nationally reputed institute/organization having experiences and expertise in wildlife related issues suggested in col.(7), or as per guidelines of Government of India.
- (3) User agency/concerned Department (Upper Ganga Canal Modernization Division, Hapur, Irrigation & Water Resources Dept.) should provide the funds for the following mitigation measures and for the conservation and Eco-development activities of wildlife and its habitat as per guidelines of Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India.
  - (a) Habitat improvement work e.g., Gross land management/pasture development, creation of water holes, plantation, etc. in 1500 ha area to counter the loss of habitat for herbivores in the sanctuary.
  - (b) Boundary demarcation/solar fencing of the reserve forest block which is likely to be fragmented due to such diversion.
  - (c) 50 km fire line management along the forest boundary to enforce strict fire protection work.
  - (d) Construction of check chowkies and residential staff quarters.
  - (e) Procurement of two vehicles and four motor boats for patrolling in the area and other equipment such as tranquilizing equipment, cages, field equipment, spotting scopes, camera traps, etc. shall be borne by the project proponent.

- (f) Establishing a Nature Interpretation Centre in the area to educate and sensitize the tourists about conservation of the wildlife.
- (4) Labourers' camp during construction stage shall be kept away from any sensitive place/passage of the wild animal in the said forest & sanctuary area.
- (5) Necessary fuel wood for the labourers shall be met with purchase from market. No quarrying/mining/borrowing of soil/operations shall be carried within the other sanctuary except project site.
- (6) Any form of poaching or forest offence, particularly by the construction workers, will be strictly prevented. In the event of any case of poaching noticed during the construction of project, user agency would be held responsible.
- (7) A survey/study shall be conducted for the critically endangered species of Amphibians & Reptiles such as gangetic dolphin, water lizard, otters, crocodiles, ganges soft shelled turtle and other wildlife species found in river ganga from Ramnagar to Balia and other Ramser site wetland which is situated within the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary. The expert body for survey will be decided by the competent authority of Forest Department and Wild Life Institute, Dehradun. According to the survey report a conservation plan shall be prepared in consultation of WII/expert for preparation of Wild Life Management Plan. The user agency shall provide funds for the above activities.
- (8) Any other condition stipulated by Standing Committee of National board for Wildlife, Government of India will be complied by user agency.

Dr. H. S. Singh and Prof. R. Sukumar suggested for conducting a detailed impact study of the proposed project on the wildlife sanctuary.

After discussions, the Committee suggested that a committee comprising of Dr. H. S. Singh, member, one representative of WII and one person from Wildlife Division would visit the project site and submit a report to the Ministry within June 2017 for further consideration.

**42.4.1.9. Proposal felling of trees for widening and metalling tarring of Bathri Sundala-Langera, J&K boundary road km 87/200/93/ 400 intermediate lane standard in Gamgul Sihabehi Wildlife Sanctuary, Dist. Chama, Himachal Pradesh**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves widening and metalling tarring of existing single lane road to double lane J&K boundary road km 87/200(Tali) to /93/ 400(J&K-HP border) in Gamgul Sihabehi Wildlife Sanctuary. The project would involve felling of 243 trees and 110 saplings. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Since the road already exists and the entire land required for the project is in the ownership of Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HPPWD). However proper disposal of muck generated out of excavation need to be done out of sanctuary area without disturbing wildlife and its habitat.
- (2) No blasting will be done in and adjoining areas of WL sanctuary.
- (3) Construction work will not be allowed before sunrise and after sunset.

After discussions, considering the importance of project for public utility, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.10. Diversion of 0.4754 ha of forest land from Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of 12” dia LPG pipeline along with OFC from Kochi to Salem pipeline for length of 792.6 meter and width of 6 meter, Kerala by Kochi Salem Pipeline Limited**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves laying of 792.6 m long 12 inch LPG pipeline along with OFC(Optical Fibre Cable) from Kochi to Salem through Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary. The area of 0.4754 ha (792.6mx6m) is already in use by the user agency since year 2001 after obtaining the requisite clearances. The current project does not involve any diversion of forest land. He added that the Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) The additional protection against any possible erosion in slopes shall be provided by the proponent at their cost for the protection of pipeline.

- (2) No activities will be carried out by the proponent before sunrise and after sunset during or after the installation of pipeline as it can impact wildlife.

After discussions, considering the importance of the project in meeting the energy needs, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.11. Diversion of 0.5598 ha of forestland from Todgarh Wildlife Sanctuary for laying Optical Fibre transmission cable from Km 59 to Tiraha from Tiraha to Kamli Ghat Chouraha on SH-61, Kamli Ghat Chouraha to Gomati Chouraha on NH-8 and Gomati Chouraha to Km 303 on SH-16, Rajasthan**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.5598 ha of forest land from Todgarh Wildlife Sanctuary for laying Optical Fibre Cable from km 59 to km 303. He stated that the proposed site falls both inside and outside sanctuary (within 10 km deemed ESZ). He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) 2% of the proportionate cost of the project inside the Todgarh Raoli Sanctuary and within 10 km from its boundary will be deposited by the user agency in the account of Rajasthan Protected Areas Conservation Society (RPACS) for wildlife conservation and mitigation works.
- (2) No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the Protected Area.
- (3) No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area.
- (4) No tree shall be cut during the work in the protected Area.
- (5) There will be no labourers camping within 1 km of the boundary of Protected Area.
- (6) There will be no blasting within 1 km of the Protected Area boundary.
- (7) The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area by the user agency.
- (8) The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

After discussions, considering the importance of the project in strengthening telecommunication services, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.12 Diversion of 0.351 ha of forest land from Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of Optical Fiber Transmission Cable for providing telecom services in the State of Rajasthan by Idea Cellular Ltd.**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.5598 ha of forest land from Todgarh Wildlife Sanctuary for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable from km 59 to km 303. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) 2% of the proportionate cost of the project inside the Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary and within 10 km from its boundary will be deposited by the user agency in the account of Rajasthan Protected Areas Conservation Society (RPACS) for wildlife conservation and mitigation works.
- (2) No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the Protected Area.
- (3) No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area.
- (4) No tree shall be cut during the work in the protected Area.
- (5) There will be no labourers' camping within 1 km of the Protected Area boundary.
- (6) There will be no blasting within 1 km of the boundary of Protected Area.
- (7) The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area by the User Agency.
- (8) The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

After discussions, considering the importance of the project in strengthening telecommunication services, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.13 Diversion of 9.1904 ha of forest land in Thally RF of Jawalagiri Range in Hosur Forest Division for construction of Dharmapuri-Madhugiri 765 KV S/C transmission line in Thally Reserve Forest, Jwalagiri Range, Hosur Division under Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 9.1904 ha of forest land for construction of 765 kv transmission line through Cauvery North Wildlife sanctuary. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) The project proponent is requested to contribute under corporate social responsibilities (CSR) in the interest of Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (2) Considering the safety measures the project proponent may be directed to provide proper fencing around the tower area or electric power transmission (EPT) line wherever necessary and as directed by District Forest Officer.
- (3) The project proponent shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.
- (4) The project proponent shall submit an undertaking that the trees to be cleared due to this project the same will be handed over to Forest Department as directed by the District Forest Officer.
- (5) Any other condition stipulated by the Conservator of Forests/District Forest Officer shall be allowed.

Prof. R. Sukumar suggested for conducting impact study of the proposed transmission line on the wildlife sanctuary.

After discussions, the Committee decided that Prof. R. Sukumar, member would visit the project site and submit a report to the Ministry for further consideration within June 2017.

**42.4.1.14 Diversion of 0.0533 ha of forest land from Son Gharial WLS and 0.5973 ha in Sanjay Dubari Sanctuary under Sanjay TR for construction of Intake Well in Banas River near Parsili in and overhead water tank at Badkadol along with**



**laying of 8456 meter underground pipeline for water supply scheme of 31 villages of Majhuli block in Sidhi district, Madhya Pradesh**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves construction of intake well in Banas river and an overhead water tank at Badkadol and laying of 8.456 km long underground pipeline for providing potable water to 31 villages of Majhuli Block of Sidhi District in Madhya Pradesh. He added that CWLW has recommended the project. Further he stated that the NTCA has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures.

- (1) Son Gharial Sanctuary is one of the few places in the world where critically endangered Gharial, Indian Skimmer and endangered Softshell Turtle are found. A total of 209.21 km of river with width of 200 mtr of the river bank on either side are protected. The Water impoundments on the Son include the Bansagar Dam, Indrapuri Barrage and Dehri Anicut. Construction of dams at Bansagar, Gulabsagar, allotment of water from these rivers to various industrial units, irrigation purposes and rural and urban water supplies have already led to the reduction in water availability for the wildlife in the Sanctuary.
- (2) Flow of water within the sanctuary reduces drastically during the lean seasons disrupting the connectivity of various pools and undermining their breeding. The proposed intake well within the sanctuary may further deplete the water availability.
- (3) The “*Assessment of minimum water flow requirements of Chambal River in the context of Gharial and Gangetic Dolphin conservation*” conducted by the WII in 2011 categorically states the any further withdrawal of water from Chambal river and its tributaries will seriously affect the Gharial, the wildlife and other ecosystem service values of the river. This necessitates a scientific study of ecological water flow in these rivers to determine the requirement to wildlife so as to control diversion of water from the rivers forming the sanctuary.
- (4) In the above context, information on how much water will be used where the intake well will be situated: quantum of water usage by wildlife and local communities; specific wildlife management plan for water utilization by wildlife in the sanctuary are needed for assessing

their impacts on Gharial and other endangered species in the sanctuary and for suggesting necessary mitigation measures.

- (5) Currently, only two GPS coordinates for (i) intake well in Son Gharial WLS and (ii) overhead tank construction within Sanjay Dubri Tiger Reserve has been provided. This is not adequate for assessing the proposal in relation to the tiger distribution and or movement in the area. The WII has requested to send the detailed proposal with submission of the map (shape file of the project area).
- (6) Precise alignment of the public road through Sanjay Dubri TR parallel to which the underground pipeline will be constructed is not presently known. Without this, its impact on tiger movement cannot be evaluated.
- (7) Details of tree felling and undergrowth clearance for construction of the pipeline within Sanjay Dubri Tiger Reserve may also be communicated.
- (8) User agency may be requested to furnish the deficient information.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.1.15 (a) Diversion of 96.65 ha (Reduced from 131.67 ha) in Muthinakoppa Minor Forest & Aramballi State Forest in Koppa Division for construction of a irrigation canal under the Bhadra Upper Project Package I, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, Division 1, Gajanur Shivamogga, Karnataka**

**(b) Diversion of 110.10 ha of forest land (reduced from 186.42 ha) in Bhadravathi Division for the construction of a lift irrigation canal under the Upper Bhadra Project Package II (lifting of water from Bhadra Tiger Reserve at Ajjampura delivery Chamber) B R Project, Bhadravathi, Karnataka**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 96.65 ha in Muthinakoppa Minor Forest & Aramballi State Forest in for construction of an irrigation canal under the Bhadra Upper Project Package I, and the diversion

of 110.10 ha of forestland in Bhadravathi Division for the construction of a lift irrigation canal under the Upper Bhadra Project Package II. He added that the Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the condition that the revised mitigation plan be prepared by the user agency in consultation with the Forest Department, Wildlife Expert and the concerned, etc., and implemented as per the resolution of the State Board for Wildlife. The site specific conditions if any as imposed/suggested by the jurisdictional officers shall have to be adhered to by the user agency.

Further the IGF(WL) stated that the NTCA has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) Considering the significance of the landscape pertaining to tigers distribution/dispersal, leopards, elephants and other endangered species; it is recommended to propose retrofitting canal systems by closed conduit at ground level for Upper Bhadra Project (UBP) canals passing within the boundaries of Bhadra Tiger Reserve. Though initial installation of such underground pipeline system would demand slightly higher financial investment and technological skills, the benefits for irrigation would be much greater in comparison to traditional open canal system with little loss of water by evaporation and seepage, low maintenance cost, long life, flexible to operate, less soil erosion and utilization of the maintenance cost for some other purposes such as plantations etc.
- (2) Although the Upper Bhadra Project aims at diversion of water from Bhadra reservoir only during the monsoon (June to October), however, large scale water abstraction for irrigation and drinking purposes might have severe repercussions on water availability within the river and survival of endangered species living therein. It is recommended to have rigorous monitoring of this large scale water abstraction by the user agency and concerned forest authorities.
- (3) Moreover, the following mitigatory measures are also recommended so as to ensure compliance during implementation of the Upper Bhadra Project within Bhadra Tiger Reserve:

- (i) The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged and the implementation of the project should be in strict adherence to all the mitigation measures suggested by (a) the Regional Empowered Committee, MoEF&CC Regional office (SZ) Bengaluru and (b) Karnataka Forest Department in the revised Wildlife Management and Mitigation plan for Upper Bhadra lift irrigation scheme.
- (ii) The Irrigation pipeline passing through the Tiger Reserve should be at 1-2 mtr depth under soil (depending upon the rock profile) and should be covered with native vegetation (plantation is to be carried at the cost of user agency).
- (iii) The user agency should ensure minimal disturbances to the forest during the construction phase. These include controlled blasting during daytime while absolutely needed, no construction work at night, no night labourers' camp within the forest, dumping of the construction debris should be outside the forest boundaries, monitoring of labourers for extraction of any forest product, etc.
- (iv) Local Forest Range Officer should ensure that no additional tree (beyond permitted) is felled during the construction of the Upper Bhadra Project canals within the Tiger Reserve.
- (v) An old canal is also running in parallel to the proposed Package II alignment of Upper Bhadra Project up to some distance. Cross over bridges, culverts, super passages (see Glossary of green smart infrastructure) etc. at regular intervals (30 meter wide at every 400 mtr intervals) need to be constructed over this canal (as long as it passes through the WLS or ESZ) for permitting unhindered animal movements. The precise locations of these structures should be decided in consultation with local Divisional Forest Officer & Field Director at site where wildlife crossing is likely to happen.
- (vi) The old canal may get filled with water during the rainy season and in order to avoid accidental animal mortality by drowning, ramps of about 6 mtr could be constructed at an interval of every 500 mtr.
- (vii) Chain link fencing should be avoided as much as possible since it is likely to fragment the habitat and disrupt animal movements. Construction of the water holes near the proposed canal along the entire length of both the packages should be cautiously planned as those structures will attract animals to approach near the canal and may escalates conflicts

(viii) The State Govt. shall charge the Net Present Value of the forest land proposed for diversion from the user agency as per Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's order numbers IA 826 and 566 (dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008) related to a Writ Petition (Civil) No 202/1995.

Dr. H. S. Singh and Prof. R. Sukumar suggested for conducting a detailed impact study of the proposed project on the aforesaid Tiger Reserve.

After discussions, the Committee decided that a committee comprising of Dr. R. Sukumar, member, one representative of NTCA and one representative from GEER Foundation would visit the project sites and submit a report to the Ministry for further consideration within June 2017.

#### **42.4.2. PROPOSALS WITHIN 10 KM FROM THE BOUNDARIES OF PROTECTED AREAS**

##### **42.4.2.1 Proposal for Dirok Field Development Phase I & II for re-entry and completion of existing well, commissioning of Gas Gathering Station (GGS) and Gas procession plant (GPP) and laying of underground gas pipeline in the Dirok field in onshore block AAP-ON-94/1, Tinsukia District, Assam by the Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Ltd.**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for re-entry and completion of existing well, commissioning of Gas Gathering Station and Gas procession plant and laying of underground gas pipeline in the Dirok field of Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary. He added that two existing wells are located within 1 km distance of the boundary of the aforesaid Sanctuary. He added that CWLW has recommended the except for Gas Processing Plant (GPP) at Golai with the following conditions:

- (1) Effective measures against noise and light pollution,
- (2) Effective management of effluent, solid and liquid waste and organic waste material generated.
- (3) Reclamation of ground cleared, ponds/ditches/drains and leveling of land.

- (4) Capping of wells.
- (5) Establishment of GPP at Golai is not recommended as the site may infringe elephant corridor. It needs mention that animal corridor is loosely defined area and cannot be exactly demarcated on ground. The Golai elephant corridor is already, fragmented due to human settlement. Industrial intrusion and coming up of other socio-economic activities that may result may aggravate the problem to irreversible proportion. Since these activities are long term activities and area located close to the Dehing Patkai WLS within its ESZ, impact of activities on wildlife needs to be analyzed by an expert group.
- (6) The Expert Committee formed by SBWL members visited the site along with Divisional Forest Officer, Digboi Division who is also the in-charge of Dehing Patkai WLS and Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle of Jorhat and opined that the proposed activity will not have any major impact on wildlife habitats and surrounding environment. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam has also agreed with their view and recommended the proposal subject to the conditions and mitigation measures stipulated by the Expert Committee and Divisional Forest Officer, Digboi Division.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden. However, the existing exploratory wells located within 1 km distance from the boundary of the sanctuary shall be plugged permanently and no oil/gas shall be extracted from such wells. The Chief Wildlife Warden shall ensure compliance of same.

**42.4.2.2. Proposal for Dirok Field Development Phase-III for drilling wells, development exploratory wells, commissioning of Gas Gathering Station (GGS) and Gas Processing Plant (GPP) and laying of underground gas pipeline in the Dirok Field in onshore block AAP-94/1, Tinsukia District, Assam by Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Ltd.**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves re-entry and completion of existing well, commissioning of Gas Gathering Station and Gas procession plant and laying of underground gas pipeline in the Dirok field of Dehing Patkai

Wildlife Sanctuary. He added that two exploratory well and two development wells are located within 1 km distance from the boundary of the aforesaid Sanctuary. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Effective measures against noise and light pollution.
- (2) Effective management of effluent, solid and liquid waste and organic waste material generated.
- (3) Reclamation of ground cleared, ponds/ditches/drains and leveling of land.
- (4) Capping off wells.
- (5) Taking into consideration the project activities in all the three phases, their cumulative impact on wildlife needs to be analyzed as development wells, gas gathering station and gas processing plant are long term activities. Thus an expert group may be constituted for the purpose consisting of experts from WII, Dehradun, expert from Assam and one NGO besides two officers from Forest Department. The group will analyze likely impact and recommend mitigation measures.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden. However, the existing wells (two exploratory well and two development wells) located within 1 km distance from the boundary of the sanctuary shall be plugged permanently and no oil/gas shall be extracted from such wells. The Chief Wildlife Warden shall ensure compliance of same.

#### **42.4.2.3. Four laning work from km 0 to km 17.3 of NH-37A in the State of Assam**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 6 ha of Bhomoraguri Reserve Forest for widening of existing road to 4-lane road from km 0 to 17.3 km of NH-37A. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following and condition:

- (1) The Sonitput District specially the area through which the proposed four lane road is passing highly prone to elephant depredation. The 6<sup>th</sup> Addition to the Kaziranga National Park is in the east and Burhachapori/Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary is the west of the

proposed road, hence movement of wild animal in the area is common phenomenon. Thus the user agency shall provide a reasonable amount to the PCCF, WL & CWLW, Assam as Corpus fund, which will be kept in Bank as a fixed deposit and accrued interest will be utilized for Wildlife Conservation and conflict mitigation activities.

After discussions, considering the fact that the project will reduce the traffic flow on NH-37 passing on the southern side of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **42.4.2.4. Proposal for Wildlife clearance for creation of Infrastructure Facilities for Strategic Surveillance System at Rutlannd Island by Programme AD, DRDO, Hyderabad**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 49.978 acres forest land(out of which 0.84 ha falls in Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park, 49.138 ha reserve forest within 10km ESZ) for creation of Infrastructure Facilities for Strategic Surveillance System of DRDO. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) No objection certificate from the APWD implementing agency for water harvesting project for supply of water to Port Blair and South Andaman based on the Scientific Study along with the Recommendations of the Study regarding permission to the DRDO project and regarding measures, is any to be taken up to mitigate impact of the project shall be submitted by the user agency along with an undertaking to comply with the recommendations.
- (2) Specific marine and terrestrial wildlife conservation plan shall be prepared and implemented by the park Manager, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Wildlife I at the project site.
- (3) The Provision of Guard Room kept in the project should be established at 11.100 km from RM point instead of 0.10 km at RM point as a Forest Camp already exist at this location.



- (4) Project authority should take necessary precautions by placing essential deflectors and anti-radiation screens around satellite antennas to reduce the impact of radiation on biodiversity in the proposed area.
- (5) Vessels/boats used for construction should use the approved route for navigation and larger vessel should enter into the National Park only during high tide.
- (6) Minimum number of vehicles should be used inside Rutland Island during constructional and operational phase of the project.
- (7) The nature of the diverted forest land shall remain same.
- (8) The project authority should take necessary permission from CWLW while entering into waters of Marine National Park while approaching Rutland Island.
- (9) Project authority should provide fuel/fire wood required for road making, cooking purpose for the labourers involved in infrastructure development. No forest material of fire wood should be collected from forest area.
- (10) No effluent or domestic sewage (liquid or solid waste) shall be disposed into the sea or nearby forest area.
- (11) The implementing agency will ensure that the natural drainage of the locality are not disturbed due to construction of road and other infrastructure and the dugout soil are stabilized in a proper way.

After discussions, considering the strategic importance of the project for country's defence, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions and mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.2.5. Proposal for Tanmay Dhyata Steel Concast Ltd. for establishment of industrial unit for manufacturing of TMT bars and wire rod at Khasra No. 360, 361, 362, 1848/1759/687 and 364/1 in village Mandana, Tehsil Ladpura, District Kota within 10 km from the boundary of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary, Mukundra National Park and Mukundra Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves establishment of an industrial unit for manufacturing of TMT bars and wire rods at a

site 6.2 km away from the boundary of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions.

- (1) 2% of the cost of the project will be deposited by the User Agency in the account of Rajasthan Protected Areas Conservation Society (RPACS) for Wildlife Conservation and mitigation works.
- (2) No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the Protected Area.
- (3) No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area.
- (4) No trees shall be cut during the work in the Protected Area.
- (5) There will be no labourers' camping within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
- (6) There will be no blasting within 1 km of the Protected Area boundary.
- (7) The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area by the User Agency.
- (8) The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (9) Green belt should be created on the periphery of project area by the user agency.

Further the IGF(WL) mentioned that NTCA has also recommended the project with the condition of compliance of the conditions indicated by CWLW by the user agency.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **42.4.2.6. Proposal for Collection of Sand/Bajri/Boulder from River Jakhan Lot No. 13/2 Area 92.652 ha Dist. Dehradun, Uttarakhand**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the collection of sand, Bajri and boulder from an area of 92.652 ha in River Jakhan located at a distance of 2 km from the boundary of Rajaji National Park. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the conditions specified by the Director, Rajaji National Park.

The NTCA has also recommended the project with the condition of only picking and no mechanized extraction of minerals are allowed for strict compliance.

Dr. H.S. Singh and Prof. R. Sukurmar suggested that user agency may be instructed to collect minerals in phases instead of extracting the materials from the entire area at a time.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden. The Chief Wildlife Warden shall ensure that the area is broken up in phases rather than breaking the entire area for extraction.

**42.4.2.7. Proposal for Garh Roshanabad Sand mining project (area 11.883 ha) from river Rao, District Hardwar, Uttarakhand of M/s Garhwal Mandal Vikas Ltd., Dehradun, Uttarakhand**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the collection of river bed materials from a site located at a distance of 9 km away from Rajaji National Park. He added that CWLW has recommended the project. Further, NTCA has also recommended the project and mentioned that the proposed site is located 9 km away from the southern boundary of Rajaji Tiger Reserve. The area is surrounded by agriculture landscape and no noticeable wildlife habitat is observed nearby. The area does not fall within any corridor area or provide any connectivity for wild animals to move from one patch of forest to the other. Extraction of RBM in this stretch is unlikely to affect the wildlife of Rajaji Tiger Reserve.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**42.4.2.8. Proposal for Sand/Bajri/Boulder mining project in an area 32.208 ha falls at distance of 6 km from Rajaji National Park, village Ajeetpur, District-Hardwar, Uttarakhand of M/s Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the collection of sand, Bajri and boulder from a site located at a distance of 6 km from Rajaji National Park. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal the condition that only hand picking should be allowed. Further he mentioned that the NTCA has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) The stretch of river Ganga downstream of Hardwar till Bhogpur forms an important habitat for wildlife. This stretch of river Ganga receives very good congregation of migratory water fowls viz., Rubby Shelduck and Bareheaded geese.
- (2) Any extraction of river based materials from this stretch of river Ganga therefore needs very careful examination keeping the wintering as well as breeding areas of waterfowl.
- (3) A group of 6-7 bull elephants from Rajaji Tiger Reserve regularly cross the river Ganga near Tehdi Pulia (in Shyampur Range of Hardwar FD) in order to gain access to the water of river Ganga and possibly use the crop fields along the right bank of river Ganga near Ajeetpur village.
- (4) Extensive use of wild elephants of riverine islands in Ganga near Ajeetpur also warrants a detailed investigation of elephant movement pattern in this stretch of river Ganga.
- (5) The Jhilmil Jheel Conservation Reserve (diagonally) opposite to Ajeetpur village and the grasslands of Amichand-Bhuria Sot-Nangal (opposite Bhogpur) form critical habitats for the only population of endangered Swamp Deer in Uttarakhand. Any proposal to extract sand and boulder from river Ganga should carefully examine its impact on the Swamp deer population of the area.
- (6) Any matter related to extraction of River Bed Materials (RBM) in this stretch of river Ganga should follow the directives of National Green Tribunal (NGT).

Dr. H.S. Singh and Prof. R. Sukumar objected to collection of sand, Bajri and boulder as the area is the most important part of Shivalik Elephant Reserve.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to reject the proposal.

**42.4.2.9. Proposal for collection of Sand/Bajri/boulder from river Banjarewala area 51.02 ha falls at a distance of 2 km from Rajaji National Park, District-Haridwar, Uttarakhand by M/s Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd., Dehradun, Uttarakhand**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the collection of sand, Bajri and boulder from a site in river Banjarewala located at a distance of 2 km from Rajaji National Park. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the condition that only hand picking should be allowed.

Further, NTCA has recommended the collection of materials from stretches 1 & 2 and not recommended stretches 3 of the river for collection. Presence of few boulder-crushing units in the vicinity of the proposed site produce considerable noise during the day that is clearly audible from Rajaji Tiger Reserve. Although manual collection of sand/bajri/boulder itself may not produce the noise, it may give rise to establishment of additional stone crusher units nearby. The aspect of noise pollution needs careful consideration in this case.

Dr. H.S. Singh and Prof. R. Sukurmar suggested that user agency may be instructed to collect minerals in phases instead of extracting the materials from the entire area at a time.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden. The Chief Wildlife Warden shall ensure that the area is broken up in phases rather than breaking the entire area for extraction.

**42.4.2.10. Proposal for collection of minor minerals from the river bed of river Nandhor (an area of 468.00 ha) district Nainital and Udham Singh Nagar to channelize the natural course of river and protect river banks and adjoining forest and habitat for flood, Uttarakhand**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the collection of minor minerals from a site (area 468 ha) in river Nandaur located at a

distance of 2.97 km from Nandour Wildlife sanctuary. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Collection of RBM will be restricted between sunrise and sunset.
- (2) Explosives will not be used for extraction of River Bed Material.
- (3) No permanent structure will be allowed to be constructed.
- (4) The employed labourers will be provided fuel wood by the project proponent to avoid use of adjoining forest by them.

Dr. H.S. Singh and Prof. R. Sukumar suggested that user agency may be instructed to collect minerals in phases instead of extracting the materials from the entire area at a time.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden. The Chief Wildlife Warden shall ensure that the area is broken up in phases rather than breaking the entire area for extraction.

#### **42.4.3. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

##### **38.2.1.5 Proposal for use of 11.2680 ha land of Block No. 25 in Marine Sanctuary for Laying for 2504 m long and 45 m wide Waste Water Pipeline by Tata Chemicals Limited (TCL), Gujarat (Minutes of 39<sup>th</sup> SC NBWL)**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal was recommended for laying of '*subterranean pipeline*' for discharge of waste water from the Tata Chemicals Plant by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016. He added that the user agency has now requested for laying of '*trestle mounted pipeline*'. This request of the user agency was considered and recommended by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the laying of trestle mounted pipeline instead of subterranean pipeline for discharge of waste water from the said plant into the sea.

**10.4.1.8 Proposal for waiving off the condition regarding acquisition of private lands in the catchment of the dam stipulated by the National Board for wildlife granting wildlife clearance for Salgoan dam project inside Mt. Abu Sanctuary, Rajasthan (Minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> SC NBWL).**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal was recommended in 10<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee of NBWL held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2008. The State Government has now requested for replacing the condition “*The private land if any in the catchments should be acquired by the due process to stop any activity which would cause further degradation of the habitats*” with “*No land use change and no new constructions will be permitted in the catchment area. Besides, State Government will transfer to the forest Dept 111.33 ha of Govt revenue land located inside/adjacent to the sanctuary in addition to 55.45 ha of Govt revenue land located in the catchment area.*”

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to accept the request of State Govt.

**42.4.3.1 Diversion of 1007.29 ha of forest land from Palamau Tiger Reserve for construction of North Koel Reservoir Project, Dist. Latehar, Jharkhand**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 1007.29 ha of forest land from Palamau Tiger Reserve. Nearly 344644 trees would be required to be felled for the project. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) During construction or installation of gates, the project authorities should construct Jetty at important locations. Motor boat as well as paddle boat should also be made available to monitor and control illicit fishing and birds poaching.
- (2) The total number of trees to be felled is approx. 3,44,644 as per joint enumeration of trees. Such loss of trees should be compensated by planting same numbers of trees through Jan Van Yojana, Kisan nursery, etc., within Project Tiger jurisdiction.

- (3) The height of gates was initially proposed as 367.28 m FRL and accordingly compensation has been paid to villages of 13 villages against their land holdings. The new Khatiyana has been created and all land has been shown in Nadi Ghati Pariyojana land. The Govt. may consider transferring all such land to Palamau Tiger Reserve.

After discussions, the Committee decided that a committee comprising of Member Secretary, NTCA and Member from WII would visit the project site and submit a report to the Ministry for further consideration within June 2017. The report would also contain the assessment of project by NTCA under sec 38 (O) (1)(b) of Wildlife(Protection) Act, 1972.

**42.4.3.2 Proposal of Reliance JIO INFOCOMM Ltd for laying of 10.4 km OFC along the ROW of state highway 30 from Sawai Madhopur to Chambal River in Ranthambore TR, District Sawai Madhopur in the State of Rajasthan**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves laying of 10.4 km length of OFC(Optical Fibre Cable) through Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset.
- (2) No machinery shall be allowed inside the sanctuary area.
- (3) No trees shall be cut during the work.
- (4) There shall be no camping by laborers within 500 mtr from WLS.
- (5) The waste material generated should be disposed outside the sanctuary area.
- (6) No material of any kind should be extracted from the sanctuary area.
- (7) The project personal will abide with the provisions of Wildlife (Protection Act), 1972.

Further, NTCA has also recommended the project with the mitigation measures:

- (1) With regard to the proposal of widening of the existing SH-30 in the same stretch (Sawai Madhopur to Bodal village) along which the underground optical fiber cable is proposed to be laid, the NTCA constituted team had recommended conversion of the major portion of the road into elevated flyover/viaduct for passage of wildlife. In light of this recommendation, it



is evident there will be a major change in the current structure of SH-30 in future and the user agency should keep this in mind and need to redesign the alignments of the optical fiber cable in coordination with the State Public Works Department.

- (2) The cable should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Care should be taken that the cable is totally underground and at a minimum depth of 1 mtr below soil surface i.e., above optical fiber cable soil height would be at least 1 mtr.
- (3) No alter in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the tiger reserve for implementing the proposed construction. Care should be taken that no damage is done to the existing park boundary wall which runs parallel along the SH-30 and very close to the optical fiber cable alignment.
- (4) While digging the trench for optical fiber cable, shorter lengths may be taken at a time and allying of cable and refilling of the trench should be undertaken simultaneously with the shortest possible period (not exceeding 4 days) so as to avoid disruption in animal movements and wildlife (especially infant) mortality by falling in the open trench.
- (5) In strict adherence to the proposal submitted by the user agency, no trees shall be felled during laying of underground optical fiber cable. Cleaning of some undergrowth may be permitted by the field director, Ranthambore Tiger Reserve and this should be monitored by the local Range Forest Officer.
- (6) Use of heavy machinery such as earth moving/drilling machines should be avoided (unless absolutely required) so as to minimize noise pollution.
- (7) Work should be finished within specified time of the day (8 am – 5 pm) and no camping of laborers beyond this time frame should be allowed.
- (8) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the forestland proposed for diversion from the user agency as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court orders numbers IA 826 and 566 (dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008) related to a Writ Petition (Civil) No 202/1995.
- (9) A detailed compensatory Afforestation Plan will be prepared by the state forest department in lieu of the forestland proposed to be diverted for laying of optical fiber cable as per the Forest (Conservation Act), 1980.
- (10) Plantations of fuel wood, fodder, medicinal plants, economically important indigenous species, etc., would be undertaken under this program.
- (11) As suggested by SBWL, the user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost in the

account of Rajastahn Protected Aras Conservation Society (RPASCS) for wildlife conservation.

- (12) Reliance Jio infocomm also should offer facility of free data connection to the concerned Tiger reserve management for facilitating the cause of conservation protection.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

**28.4.2(26) Diversion of 4.493 ha of forest land from Pench Mowgli Wildlife Sanctuary for Rehabilitation/upgradation of existing 2-lane to 4-lane on Seoni-Khawasa (MP) MH Border Section of NH-7, Madhya Pradesh**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal was considered in 28<sup>th</sup> meeting and recommended in the 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of Standing Committee with the mitigation measures as suggested by CWLW, NTCA and WII. Subsequently the Standing Committee, in its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting, reviewed the mitigation structures namely tunnels and elevated structures. As decided in the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting, the group of NTCA, WII and NHAI reviewed the proposed mitigation measures and NHAI agreed for the eco-duct i.e., landscaping above the main carriageway to provide connectivity to the wildlife. Committee recommended the measures proposed and agreed by NHAI.

Now the user agency has submitted a request for permitting underpasses in place of eco-ducts as the terrain does not favour the construction of eco-ducts and that it would involve diversion of more forest area and felling of trees. The user agency has been advised by NTCA to approach Standing Committee for rectification of the decision.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the construction of underpasses instead of eco-ducts wherever the terrain does not permit the construction of the latter.

**AGENDA ITEM No. 5**

**THERE WERE NO AGENDA ITEMS BEFORE THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF  
NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR**

**ANNEXURE I****LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE 42<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
OF NBWL HELD ON 15 MAY 2017**

1	Shri Anil Madhav Dave Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment & Forests	Chairman
2	Shri R.R Rashmi Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change	Invitee
3	Shri Siddhantha Das Director General of Forest & Special Secretary	Invitee
4	Shri Debabrata Swain, Addl. Director General (PT)	Invitee
5	Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.	Member
6	Prof. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL	Member
7	Dr. H.S. Singh, Member, NBWL	Member
8	Shri R.D. Kamboj, Director, GEER Foundation, Gujarat.	Member
9	Shri K.S. Reddy, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh	Invitee
10	Shri G.V. Reddy, Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan	Invitee
11	Shri G.K. Sinha, Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat	Invitee
12	Shri P.K. Jha, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana	Invitee
13	Shri V.S. Khati, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttarakhand	Invitee
14	Shri Bhagwan, Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra	Invitee
15	Shri P. Anur Reddy, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka	Invitee
16	Shri L.R Singh, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Jharkhand	Invitee
17	Shri Ram Kumar, Addl. Pr.Chief Conservator of Forests (WL), Gujarat	Invitee
18	Shri B. Brahma, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam	Invitee
19	Dr. Manisha Sharma, Consultant of CPFIMS	Invitee
20	Shri H.S. Negi, Inspector General, NTCA	Invitee
21	Shri Soumitra Dasgupta, Inspector General of Forests (WL)	Invitee
22	Shri S.P. Vashishth, Deputy Inspector General of Forests(WL)	Invitee
22	Dr. Pasupala Ravi, Deputy Director (WL)	Invitee

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